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PP RUEHAG RUEHAST RUEHDA RUEHDF RUEHFL RUEHIK RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHLN  
RUEHLZ RUEHNP RUEHPOD RUEHPW RUEHROV RUEHSR RUEHVK RUEHYG  
DE RUEHSM #0770 3191540  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3901  
INFO RUCNAFG/AFGHANISTAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0093  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 000770

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [MAAR](#) [MCAP](#) [MASS](#) [MOPS](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [AF](#) [SW](#)

SUBJECT: SWEDEN TO EXTEND MILITARY COMMITMENT TO AFGHANISTAN

¶1. On November 13, the Alliance government approved for transmission to Parliament a bill to extend Sweden's ISAF commitment to Afghanistan by 12 months. The bill will also expand the Swedish military contribution by:

-- Increasing the number of ISAF troops from 366 to approximately 500 and raising the ceiling of troops available for deployment "in a contingency" from 600 to 855.

-- Sending one C-130 transport plane plus crew, one medevac helicopter and crews (date of delivery to be determined).

-- Deploying additional maneuver elements of approximately 30-40 troops, divided into five Operational Mentoring Liaison Teams (OMLTs).

¶2. The bill will be made public either November 14 or 17, depending on when it is finally received in Parliament. A joint Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee will consider the bill for 15 days before moving it to Parliament for a vote. Foreign Minister Carl Bildt's office tells us the vote will be held December 15-20. No government bill has ever failed to be approved by Parliament, according to Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee staffers.

¶3. Sweden also increased its development assistance to Afghanistan (see Septel to follow).

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